

in this issue:

LINDRIDGE HOUSE 3.5

ACCOUNTS 7-10



The magazine of

TOC H

price 20p



The magazine of TOC

Toc H is a movement of people who seek to build friendships, and offer service, across the Toc H is a movement of people who seek to builder. The basic unit is the group - at best u barriers that usually divide us from one another. The basic unit is the group - at best u barriers that usually divide us from one another meets together regularly, and seeks good cross-section of the local neighbourhood - which meets together regularly, and seeks good cross-section of the local neighbourhood - which do in 1915 by the Rev P. B. Tubby to serve the community around it. Toc H was founded in 1915 by the Rev P. B. Tubby to serve the community around it. Too it has performed by the Christian Clayton, and since then has been providing opportunities for people to test the Christian way by practical experiment.

To welcome all in friendship and lessen by habit of thought, word and deed the All members pledge themselves to try:

prejudices which separate people.
To give personal service.
To find their own convictions while listening with respect to the views of others.

To acknowledge the spiritual nature of man and to test the Christian way by trying it.

This magazine is a forum for ideas about Toc H and about the world as well as a record of Toc H service. Its title derives from the third of these Four Points.

## Defeating Disintegration

Despairing of something you love is a painful feeling which most of us experience at some time or another during our lives. Both individuals and organisations which have inspired us, challenged us, fulfilled us, supported and cared for us, to which we have given our affection as well as our loyalty, can sometimes behave in ways which are so bunglingly stupid and hurtful that loyalty and love are tested to the limit and potential bitterness edges closer to realisation. Relationships, tested to the limit, begin to break down under the stress and suspicion and a militant watchfulness replace affection and trust.

And yet the original actions which lead to such painful situations are rarely malicious, often not particularly thoughtless or stupid, even actually well-meant. In the Church of England the movement towards the ordination of women to the priesthood which I support - was always bound to be a delicate and sensitive issue, over which people have inevitably been seriously and deeply divided. It was clear from the outset that, for some, whatever the decision, offence would be too great to be tolerated. Not only is pain-free change impossible, so too is pain-free rejection of change. Some hurt is unavoidable. Almost any organisation will try to move to minimise that hurt, and it is in that well-intentioned move that the greatest danger lies, for organisations love to legislate, and often seem to know no other way of acting. Systems, regulations, codes of conduct and practice, guidelines, new structures and appointments pour out from committees, advisory groups, working parties and lawyers' pens. 'Rights' are negotiated and systematised and the advisers and legislators heave a sigh of relief and feel good about it. The problem is that legislation, and all that goes with it, is better at exacerbating

personal pain than it is at healing it, and in the Church of England the recently published paper from the House of Bishops called The Ordination of Women to the Priesthood - Draft Code of Practice' seems to be no exception. So the hurt grows. Women who are hoping to be ordained to the priesthood feel that their ministries will be severely restricted by its provisions. Those opposed to the ordination of women are offended by the first along in the offended by the first clause in the paper which recommends that 'It shall be lawful for the General Synod to make provision by canon for enabling a woman to be ordained to the office of priest. 'A charter for lepers,' says one side; 'Bland and platitudinous' says the other. Personal hurt intensifies and spreads, and as trust weakens healing becomes less and less likely. Despair can be hard to avoid.

In the universe at large it is recognised that there is an innate tendency towards disintegration. It is a force which is constantly present in human affairs - a natural law which it is hard, and sometimes apparently impossible to resist. Even the most careful legislation can be suborned by it, and the best intentioned resolutions to Synods and Councils achieve little. It is only love which can hold us together in the face of such a force - love which is utterly selfless, endlessly forgiving and eternally renewing; love which, even when the law of disintegration seems to have prevailed, can pray 'Father, forgive them - they don't know what they're doing,' and rise again in glory. Nothing less can save us.

Colin Rudd

Rev. Colin Rudd was formerly a member of Toc H's National Chaplaincy Team. He is now Vicar of Buckland with Littleworth and Pusey, near Oxford.

Editor: Judith Rice Designer: Sybil A. Chick

Cover Philip Douch and Roy Clarke (see A Common Language, pp. 3-5). Photo: Brian Cohen

Letters, articles and news items are welcomed, and should be addressed to the Toc H Editorial Office, 38 Newark Street, London, El 2AA. Tel: 01 375 0547.

Opinions expressed (including the editorial) are those of the individual contributors and not necessarily those of the Toc H Movement.

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Price: 20p per copy or £2 per year subscription. Any contribution towards the high cost of postage will be gratefully accepted.

# A Common Language

Judith Rice visits Lindridge House, a flourishing and original Toc H centre in Devon.



Practising 'Parachute Games' in readiness for a Children's Fun Day

It's brought a breath of fresh air to the region': Betty and Alan Hawkins, like many of their fellow members in the South West, have nothing but praise for Lindridge House, a Toc H centre of a pioneering sort in Devon. It's a place where people feel they are involved and can make an impression - where they too have a contribution to make. It has become a focal point with which both members and volunteers feel they can identify and which provides a safe but never dull springboard for new experiences which might otherwise be threatening. Like Talbot House, the birthplace of Toc H, Lindridge brings together scattered and varied individuals who find new resources in themselves and in each other through sharing the spirit of the place.

Lindridge House was not an accident. The initial idea was dreamt up by Philip and Jane Douch some years ago, when he was on the Toc H staff in the Southern Region and she was working for the National Children's Home in Newbury. They discussed it with Mary Edwards, the Chairman of the South Western Region, and a team at Headquarters: the result was a detailed paper which was put to the Central Executive in 1984. Mary Edwards has remained an essential part of the Lindridge project and she meets regularly with Jane and Philip to discuss plans and progress and to ensure that they have the support they need. Both parties find it an invaluable working partnership: it's a model of close cooperation between staff and 'lay' membership.

The initial paper was very carefully thought through and has been put into practice with discipline but flexibility. As a result, with minor variations, it has become reality - 'I'm very grateful', says Jane, 'for being given the chance to create an idea and live it out and see that it can be as successful as you thought it could be'. The basis of that idea is that Lindridge House is Jane and Philip's home, which they share with others. They have a small self-contained flat to which they can retreat but their privacy is limited and they do not, for

example, have their own kitchen. This arrangement is part of what is special about Lindridge but it brings its own problems - they are never 'off duty' and not all visitors recognise the strain that this can produce. They will be glad to leave towards the end of 1990, rewarding though their years there have been: 'it takes it out of you. You're always giving out. You have to be constantly warm and understanding'.

#### 'the priority is to involve new people and to rejuvenate old people - not to bring new people into the old things'

Their main task is to bring groups of up to 12 people together for a variety of short residential experiences. Jane works 3/4 time exclusively on this aspect of the job and she deals with all the finance and house maintenance. Philip's job is full-time, split between the house and field work in Devon. His brief differs from that of other field staff in two main respects - he is using residential experience as the basis for his work in the field, and he has a strictly defined geographical area in which to work (ie the South and East Devon Districts). Both Jane and Philip are very clear about their respective roles and about how they should be using their time and energy: 'We're not going to spend time jollying people along who are not interested in our priorities', says Philip. 'The priority is to involve new people and to rejuvenate old people - not to bring new people into the old things'.

The two halves of the work are dovetailed. The first was defined in the original paper as 'To offer people opportunities for living residentially in a small group with others of different backgrounds'. For approximately half the year the house is simply made available for such events on a self-catering, run-it-yourself basis - this enables Philip to carry out follow-up work in the field. For the other half of the year, the couple initiate and participate in a variety of weeks and weekends, many of which are experimental. Although people come to the house from all over the

Continued overleaf 3

## Continued from previous page

country, for these events Jane and Philip deliberately draw mainly on the South West for participants. As a result, volunteers find it easy and appealing to return -Lindridge, and Toc H, become a real part of their lives. Good links have been built up with a number of local agencies and professionals, who have come to recognise Lindridge as an invaluable and unusual resource both in itself and in terms of the skills which Jane and Philip have to offer. Lincombe Court is a home for adults with learning difficulties run by Social Services in Torquay. Some of the residents and staff have visited Lindridge and recall their trips with great enthusiasm.

Dave Weinstock, Deputy Officer in charge, was impressed by the commitment and by the mixture of fun and challenge: 'it was a creative weekend - they had to do things, find things, be stretched. They found themselves living themselves livi themselves living with other people on equal terms. And it was wonderful being out in the country'. Residents from Lincombe have returned both individually and in groups; and Dave has become a voluntary project leader actively involved in the South West.

Annette Jones is a Social Worker who is one of the organisers of a family-based respite care scheme for children with special needs. The children spend up to 28 days each year with families which have been carefully vetted and which are then paid on a voucher system - while their parents have a much needed rest. Philip and Jane answered one of the advertisements for

volunteer families and, with Annette's department, they worked out a novel extension of the scheme. Groups of six children go to Lindridge where they spend a short holiday with an equal number of volunteers on a one-to-one basis. It has been extremely successful: 'I think it's surprising', says Annette, 'what people can cope with in a small group environment. It seems to stretch the children without there being too much difference from home'.

The volunteers too are often deeply affected by the experience of a project. Pen Bayley was in her early divorced when she met Philip forties and recently divorced when she met Philip at the forties and recently are local amateur dramatic society and was cajoled into going on one of the 'family relief' projects. She was terrified, was convinced that handicapped people were terrified, was continued that she would not be able to cope. She also realised that she would be a good deal older than the other volunteers. She went and had the best time of her life - she's never looked back. She subsequently became a Long Term Volunteer at Lindridge, working primarily on reclaiming the pond at the bottom of the garden and setting up an adventure playground. There was a grand opening in August, culmination of a year's hard work. The project, over the months, brought together numerous people in unexpected combinations - in the end she didn't know who was going to turn up to lend a hand each weekend Local families, shops, and even the Marines and the Army, all helped in their own way. Two prisoners who came regularly on a special release scheme became so enthused about the whole affair that they have applied to become provisional members of Toc H.

# Arthur Moe-Warts and All

Part 2 of a Short Story by Scott Shaw

Arthur was exasperated. 'Don't give me that guff, Bill. Of course we've got to be attractive to attract people to the branch. It's obvious.'

Bill laughed. 'Is it? Judging by some branches, it's the last thing they think of. You've got to start by asking yourself how you seem to other people. For instance, what's their first impression when they walk into your branch room?'

Arthur smiled. 'You can't fault us there. It's really homely. Half a dozen comfortable old armchairs (we each have our own), a few photos round the walls, lovely velvet curtains, really snug in winter --'

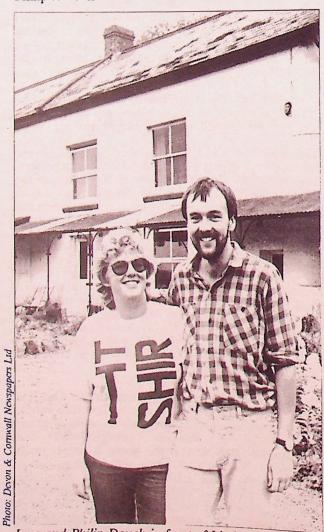
Bill moaned, 'Stop Arthur, I can't bear it. It sounds like the sort of branch for people who spend most of their time on their backsides contemplating their navels with self-satisfied grins on their faces, talking about the good old days.'

Arthur was spluttering. 'That's not fair --'

'What about those photos?' said Bill smoothly, laying his trap.

'Toc H outings for local kids,' said Arthur confidently.

'When?' said Bill. He already know the answer



Jane and Philip Douch in front of Lindridge House

It is significant that Pen's 'volunteers' have included traditional branch members, including the South Devon District Chairman Doug Ward, who remarks that the district had been far 'too parochial' before. One of the great achievements of Lindridge is that it has broken down some of the divisions within Toc H. Edith White is a 64 year old branch member and Central Councillor from Somerset who had always assumed that 'projects' were only for youngsters. But she decided to go on one at Lindridge - and has been back every year. She has, she says, never felt 'too old'! Some of the local membership were very suspicious about Lindridge in the beginning, feeling that if local people wanted to become involved in Toc H they should be encouraged above all to join local branches. But Lindridge House has shown a new way forward, which may have lessons for Toc H in other parts of the country. Few of the young people who have been attracted to Toc H through the house have shown much interest in joining (or forming) a local group. Yet they have returned again and again to Lindridge and some now talk of going on projects elsewhere in the country or of seeking Toc H out when they move away to college or work. The Douches' second aim as defined in their paper to the CEC was 'To develop work both in the field and residentially, particularly with younger people in the South West, in order to involve a new generation in the work of Toc H in that part of the country'. They have succeeded, although not quite in the way envisaged. It could be argued that Lindridge has proved a better contemporary meeting place for the generations than either branches or action groups alone.

Everybody who knows Lindridge says it is very difficult to imagine it without Philip and Jane Douch, who are so much at the heart of its success. Yet nobody has suggested that it should close with their departure next year. Pen Bayley describes 'a warm glow' which filters out from the place and which she believes comes from them but she is convinced that that glow is there to stay, whoever inherits it. Whoever that is will have to stamp their own character upon the house and there will be changes. But Toc H is now revitalised in the South West, with numerous people involved or in touch to whom the movement would have had little to offer before. And the refreshment of Toc H has come not just in new blood but in new confidence and harmony within: 'I'm amazed', remarks Mary Edwards, 'at how quickly it has assumed a place in the heart of people in the region. It's helped to unite us. We talk a common language now'.



Jane Douch (right) leads a discussion group

'Torquay 1968, Eastbourne 1969 --'

'So,' said Bill, heavily, 'you will agree, I trust, that your room doesn't give the impression of a red-hot, rust-free branch that's firing on all cylinders, ready to go scorching off, in a haze of burning rubber, down life's highway. . .?'

Arthur was furious. 'You're just picking out the bad bits. You're like a counsel for the prosecution. It's a good room. A very reasonable rent.'

'So it should be,' said Bill. 'Nobody else in town would meet in a room up two flights of stairs over the local undertakers.'

When Arthur had calmed down, Bill said quietly: 'Look mate, I'm sorry for taking the Micky, but I'm serious. Individually, none of these things would be off-putting but together, they're too much! Over the years, these little mistakes have been adding up. It's been so gradual, you can't see what the total effect is on your visitors.'

Arthur didn't concede much. 'I see what you're getting at, but they must take us as they find us.'

Bill sighed. 'Then if you really believe that, you might as well all give up and go home. If you want to share your Toc H experience with others, you've got to be considerate enough to think of their feelings. There's a lot of good in your branch, Arthur. It's not fair to yourselves or to your visitors to hide it under a lot of off-putting impressions. If people know what you're really like, some of them would stick with you.

But it's not fair to expect them to go on a sort of treasure hunt to discover the real Toc H. Most of them would just go by first impressions and not come back.

You've got to show your true colours. Your branch is shrinking, remember?'

Arthur sat for a long time, staring at his cooling tea. Bill was afraid he'd been too rough on him, but Arthur wasn't down for long. He began to chuckle.

'Reminds me of a story, Bill. There was a mixed branch that really created the wrong impression. Every meeting, just like us, they had the Ceremony of Light. Trouble was, their room was in a rather public place. All that passers-by saw, were these men and women going into this room and a few minutes later, all the lights would go out.'

Bill laughed too. 'I think that's a misunderstanding we'll just have to risk, Arthur, but you've certainly got the point. It's the other sort of wrong impressions we've got to watch - the ones we can change. You've got to look at yourself in the mirror and be hard with yourself. Look at yourself with a stranger's eye. Be as critical as you can. You'll see a few things you won't like - and you must make changes, firmly, for the sake of the people you want to make friends with: the future Toc H people. Let your light so shine . . ., remember?'

Arthur, his old self again, agreed. 'I see that now, Bill. But there's more to being an attractive branch than just changing the way we look.'

'There is indeed, Arthur, but I can't talk with a dry mouth and it's your turn to get the tea....'

#### END OF PART 2

Scott Shaw was a member of the Toc H staff between 1975 and 1983.

# The Shape of Things to Come?

John Mitchell, the Director of Toc H, argues that too much flexibility is inhibiting the movement's growth.

Three versions of a familiar Toc H event.

SCENARIO 1. The parish hall in Biggleswick. A public meeting, called by Toc H, has attracted 30 people ranging from a double-glazing salesman to a slightly glazed ex-bishop. Despite some faded sausage rolls, the meeting has been a success. The staff member has given an inspired talk about the idea of Toc H, and the possibility of Toc H in Biggleswick. We join the event at the start of question time.

**Interested local visitor:** - 'I like what I've heard sounds an exciting movement. How exactly would we start Toc H in Biggleswick?'

Inspiring staff member: - 'That's a very good question. Toc H is very anxious not to impose a set pattern on any new group. What we want you to do is to get together as a group and to decide what Toc H should mean in Biggleswick Magna.'

**I.L.V.** 'I'm sure that's very commendable, but I don't understand exactly what we do to start with. What is step one?'

I.S.M. 'I think it is very important for the group's autonomy that you work that out for yourselves.'

I.L.V. 'How do other Toc H groups operate?'

**I.S.M.** 'Well, there's no set pattern - groups vary. The important thing is to make your group appropriate to the locality, and that is something you have to work out for yourselves.'

I.L.V. 'But do we need officers?'

I.S.M. 'That's for the group to decide.'

I.L.V. 'So what you're saying is that Toc H isn't going to tell us how to do it. Is that because it doesn't know?'

I.S.M. 'Ah well, I think you've had your share of questions, sir. Are there any other questions?........'

SCENARIO 2. The same parish hall in Biggleswick. The same event.

I.L.V. 'I like what I've heard. Toc H seems an exciting movement. How exactly do we start?'



John Mitchell.

I.S.M. 'Don't worry too much about the practicalities. I'll be working with you and we can play it by ear. The important thing is to have fun and be spontaneous. Toc H is meant to be a lot of laughs, and if one gets bogged down with structures one loses the lightness.'

At that point the staff member tells a hilarious tale, and then manages to prevent the double-glazing salesman telling one that might not be appropriate! Everyone goes home laughing, and looking forward to the next meeting and an inspiring talk and a funny story. But when they meet again, the staff member is unavoidably absent, no-one else knows what to do, and it all disintegrates.

SCENARIO 3. The same parish hall, etc.

I.L.V. 'How exactly do we start?'

I.S.M. 'Well, I suggest you start by using one of three models which have worked elsewhere. Then, when you have given it a try for three months, you can always refine it or improve it. You could try the traditional branch model of a two-hour evening meeting. Or you could use the friendship circle model, of a longer meeting over a communal lunch. Alternatively, there is the 'action group' model. I have here a small handbook about each of these, with suggested programmes, the sort of officers we find helpful, and so on. It also includes the very few regulations which Toc H has.'

People depart to read and digest the three handbooks, and agree to meet next week to decide which model to adopt, and to take the first steps.

These scenarios are, of course, 'send-ups' but they contain grains of truth. The hard fact is that Scenario 3 is the *most* imaginary, simply because we do not have that sort of clarity or confidence in what we are offering. Yet I suggest it is the scenario that is most likely to extend Toc H.

From my own experience of extension, I can say that there is real truth in Scenario 1. In our anxiety not to impose and to encourage autonomy, we have in many places failed to tell people how to do it, and have sold short the very experience we do have. We have effectively been saying 'anything goes' - and that leads

# Toch Accounts 12 months to March 1989

## **HONORARY TREASURER'S REPORT**

#### INTRODUCTION

Against the background of the current review of the movement's priorities and the forthcoming Central Council debate on our major renewal for the 1990s, this is a good time to asses our financial health and the opportunities for the future. The new outreach hoped for in our 75th year is backed by a sound financial base and, as I said last year, only requires an increase of active members to be successful. Despite the 'Plus One' initiative, the recorded membership has not increased during the year although participation in Toc H activities by non-members has been very significant.

#### FINANCIAL REVIEW

Total EXPENDITURE was at a record level of £1.176m with staff and publicity costs being the biggest factors in the increase from last year's figure of £1.069m. Additional staff were employed during the year to continue the expansion of the development activities. Toc H has also incurred substantial publicity costs this year to increase its profile with a view to attracting more support and attracting new members. INCOME at £703,000 left a deficit of £473,000 to be covered from the sale of investments, a serious inroad into the main source of our income. With membership giving covering only 7.4% of our total costs, it is clear that the movement is now mainly financed from historical sources. The value of our Development Fund has not kept pace with inflation, being only 2.8% up on last year and care must be taken to avoid further erosion of our asset base.

This year was one which saw the initiation of a thorough review of the activity priorities for the future of the movement, together with the revision of the investment policy and accounts presentation. As a result a clearer picture will emerge for the future projection of our work and public awareness upon our coming 75th anniversary.

#### **SUMMARY**

As we all know raising funds is hard work which means that our essential financial guideline must be 'VALUE FOR MONEY' at all levels, both local and national. It is not just how much we spend, but are we getting acceptable results in return? We must all be involved in this Toc H stewardship to take part in a regeneration of the optimistic and high hearted nature of our purpose.

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### Continued from previous page

nowhere in the long run. When promoting Toc H, we must offer both the ideals and practical ways of working them out. We have to develop a 'portfolio' of methods which are tried, tested, and which we can offer confidently to new people who want guidance. In other words, we have to be able to say exactly what we hope will happen in Biggleswick next week. Too often, as in Scenario 2, the person trying to launch something new is 'playing it by ear' from centre stage, and few of us are that charismatic!

The recent Green Paper talks about deciding on a 'limited number' of methods. In other words, a portfolio of choices to offer. A few people have said that that will limit our flexibility, and to a point that is true. However, I firmly believe that we suffer at present from too much flexibility and that it disguises a lack of confidence and know-how. The only animal that is totally flexible is one with no backbone. Toc H needs to

offer flexibility within a framework which we can explain, which will work, and which will keep it going when the 'inspiring staff member' is not there to lead it! To change the metaphor, if we are encouraging people to undertake a journey, we ought at least to be able to recommend a range of vehicles which we know to be roadworthy. To say 'invent your own' is an abdication of leadership and a dreadful waste of the hard won experience of others.

I am not arguing that we adopt the three models actually mentioned in Scenario 3. As the Green Paper makes clear, we must have a major debate about the right methods for the future. This is happening at present and Central Council will see it taken further. What I am arguing is that decisions about our future methods are a crucial part of the renewal process for Toc H. Unless we tackle the problem of 'How?' in realistic terms, then no amount of brave resolutions will do any good at all. We have to find real, tested answers to the questions from Biggleswick!

# Toch Accounts 12 months to March 1989

# CONSOLIDATED SUMMARY PROFIT & LOSS ACCOUNT

FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1989

FOR THE	YEAR ENDED 3	MARCH 1969		
	1989		1988	
	£	£	£	£
FUND RAISING  Income  Less: Cost of Fund Raising	96,253 (36,909)	59,344	98,504 (19,416)	79,088
INVESTMENTS				
Income Less: Expenditure	230,642 (4,344)	226,298	234,811	234,811
MEMBERSHIP INCOME		86,755		89,798
		372,397		403,697
MEMBERSHIP AND ORGANISATION COSTS		(216,624)		(200,322)
DEVELOPMENT AND COMMUNITY SERVICE				
Income Less: Expenditure	289,103 (917,967)	(628,864)	212,883 . (849,697).	(636,814)
DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR		(473,091)		(433,439)
INVESTMENTS				
Realised Gains less Unrealised Losses		688,800	ence testant	(527,219)
LECACIEC BEGEN/ED		215,709		(960,658)
LEGACIES RECEIVED		(113)		(25,411)
EXCHANGE LOSS ADJUSTMENT		(27,983)		(16,201)
DEVELOPMENT FUND AT 1st APRIL 1988		187,613		(1,002,270)
As previously stated Prior year adjustment	3,361,166 3,271,167		3,691,469 . 3,943,134 .	1
Restated		6,632,333		7,634,603
DEVELOPMENT FUND AT 31 MARCH 1989		£6,819,946		£6,632,333

# Toch Accounts 12 months to March 1989

## **CONSOLIDATED BALANCE SHEET**

31 MARCH 1989

	1989		1	988
	£	£	£	£
PROPERTIES, EQUIPMENT, BOATS				
AND MOTOR VEHICLES		1,549,467		1,490,792
INVESTMENTS				
At market Value		4,745,026		4,786,432
Held on behalf of Branches		11,567		11,505
Cash Deposits held for Investment		381,506		20 10 10 10 TO
LOAN - Talbot House Association,				
Belgium re Talbot House,				20.500
Poperinge		53,533		39,533
CURRENT ASSETS				
Stocks	207,186		220,603	
Sundry Debtors and Payments			250 525	
in Advance	148,975		350,535	
Current Account with Toc H 1964 Trust – Alison House	2,484		_	
Bank Deposit	266,495		264,583	
Building Society and National				
Savings Bank Deposits	2,000		2,000	
Cash at Bank and in Hand	64,272		148,021	
	691,412		985,742	
LESS: CURRENT LIABILITIES			162 407	
Bank Overdraft (Secured)	165,796		163,427 214,849	
Sundry Creditors and Accruals Current Account with Toc H 1964	138,127		214,049	
Trust – Alison House	_		241	
Loans from Branches and Members				
(Unsecured)	92,279		103,545	
Current Provisions and Funds	93,256		75,796	
	489,458		557,858	
	No. of Paris	201,954	THE RESERVE OF THE PARTY OF THE	427,884
		6,943,053		6,756,146
LESS: DEFERRED LIABILITIES		1,078		1,026
NET ASSETS		£6,941,975		£6,755,120
Represented by:				
DEVELOPMENT FUND		6,819,946		6,632,333
FUNDS HELD FOR SPECIAL PURPOSES		122,029		122,787
		£6,941,975		£6,755,120

# TOCH SERVICES FUND

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE ACCOUNT FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1989

	1989		1988	
	£	£	£	£
NCOME		1,367,962		1,505,72
Canteens, Shops and Hostellers		1,307,902	257,678	1,505,75
Opening Stock	207,444		1,000,329	
Purchases and Shop Expenses	960,598			
	1,168,042		1,258,007 220,582	
Less: Closing Stock	207,186	960,856		1,037,4
		407,106		468,3
Net Income from Clubs		407,100		.00,5
dd: Grants from Ministry of Defence:		22 701		2,9
Trading		23,701		2,9
Refurbishment Reimbursement		13,127		-
Rent Reimbursement		-		5
Donations Received		277		3
Sale of Assets		251		14,3
Interest Received		8,948		7,6
		453,410		494,1
XPENDITURE				
Salaries and Wages – UK	96,200		97,708	
Social Security Costs	2,303		2,049	
Salaries and Wages – Local	259,849		287,453	
Recruitment Costs	170		715	
UK Administration Costs	3,631		3,500	
Insurance	1,962	•	2,521	
Rent	_		(1,905)	
Gas	1,688		1,951	
Electricity	9,239		10,528	
Water	1,736		1,785	
Heating	1,561		1,953	
Printing and Stationery	2,134			,
Postage and Telephone	10,967		3,385	
Audit Fees		,	10,920	
Professional Fees	3,000		2,750	
	750		1,996	
General Expenses	896		672	
Cleaning and Laundry	1,987		2,012	
Conservancy	2,490		2,212	
CVWW – UK	2,263		1,708	
Staff Uniforms	26		97	
Travelling and Subsistence	7,499		10,455	
Vehicle Repairs and Maintenance	2,274		4,403	
Vehicle Running Expenses	2,983		3,512	
Vehicle Insurances	7,582		7,014	
Equipment Repairs and Maintenance	2,776		4,170	
Activities	2,784		3,157	
Capital Expenditure:			5,15,	
Vehicles	3,887		21,553	
Equipment	8,767		7,804	
Refurbishment - Paderborn Club	13,127		7,004	
Profit on Exchange	(1,121)		(1,941)	
		453,410		494,1
		100,110		474,1

The Accounts for the year ended 31 March 1989 were audited by Kingston Smith, Chartered Accountants, Devonshire House, 146 Bishopsgate, London EC2M 4JX. The foregoing Accounts are only extracts from the audited financial statements. Full copies of the accounts, including accounting policies and other notes are available to all members on demand. It would be helpful if any questions you may have on the accounts are submitted before Central Council to allow time for a full answer to be prepared.



We reserve the right to edit letters.

Only letters with full name and address will be considered for publication.

### NEW MEMBERS

One often reads in *Point 3* of falling Toc H membership and of the decline of the movement in general. In this area of Tunbridge Wells just the opposite is happening. A new group formed at the end of January already has 10 members (at the time of writing) with more in the pipeline. Six of these have already signed the application for full membership. Old people's outings have been held - many other activities are planned.

The movement can get new members if it goes out for them. We have to get out there after them, not wait for them to come to us! Let us go ahead with determination and hope. Away with talk of decline, Toc H is not dying. It can be given a new lease of life if we all pull together.

Harry Mackellow Tunbridge Wells

#### BASIS OF CHRISTIANITY

May I be allowed to point out to Brigadier Goozee C.B.E. that the Christian Faith is based on the New Testament. Like so many others the Brigadier has got it wrong. The Old Testament, the book to which he refers (June *Point 3*), says 'an eye for an eye, a tooth for a tooth', but Jesus totally turns that round and contradicts it.

The Old Testament is but a lesson, and a wonderful lesson to all of us, as to how God used the Jews to train just those 12 whom Jesus chose; and throughout that Old Testament we are shown that gradual development that in passing brought us those wonderful words in Second Isaiah - right up to the even more wonderful words spoken by Jesus in the Gospels; on which, to contradict the Brigadier even more - on which our Christian faith is based.

Rev. C. A. Cardale Totnes

## I HAVE A DREAM'

I have read Ken Prideaux-Brune's letter (Your Letters, August) with interest and have to say in response that I both agree and disagree!

Of course we must have the courage to own up and apologise when we have hurt someone. In the reality of our everyday lives we constantly do and say things which are hurtful, and saying sorry provides an opportunity to mend a hurt relationship.

But I do believe that the love which Jesus called us to live is a vision of perfection. My understanding of his ministry, life and death is that Jesus never had to apologise for anything he said or did. He lived agape-love so completely that he died on a cross not condemning his persecutors but loving them and offering them forgiveness.

In our own lives we have to apologise - repent - because our love is not perfect. Yet there are examples across history and the world of moments when agape-love is seen in the glory of its perfection, so it is rooted in reality. While there may be regret at the consequences of living that way (Truth and Love are never easy to live nor to hear) agape-love never needs to repent of its action.

God certainly does love and accept us just as we are - thank God! That does nothing to deter us from trying always to attain the perfection we are both capable of and God hopes of us. The sign outside a local

Baptist church sums it up: 'We are not perfect, just forgiven!' God does and will forgive us, but still calls us to be perfect as he is perfect. That's agape-love!

Alan Johnson Wendover

### SAFE HANDS

Having spent many weeks in hospital recently, mostly in a strange Sussex town nearly 100 miles from home, family and friends, I have had time to reflect on the past, present, and, hopefully, the future of this movement which I love.

I became a member in 1929, followed by my wife, father, mother, two sisters and three brothers. I have held most branch, district and some area offices, and was elected twice to the Central Council (once in the 1930s and again in the 1960s). Remembering such stalwarts as Barclay Baron, Rex Calkin, Peter Monie, Pat Leonard et al, I wondered if we were getting correct leadership today.

My copy of July *Point 3* was passed to me by my daughter and I read that splendid article by our Director, John Mitchell. I realise that Toc H is safe in his hands for the future.

May God bless his efforts.

Frank Holland Edmonton

# **§review**

## Prayer & Adrenalin

THANK YOU PADRE -Memories of World War 2 by Joan Clifford Fount Original, £2.50

At first one feels a bit breathless as one is whisked through a long strip of snapshots of different padres in action - but keep on! In the end, Joan Clifford succeeds in presenting clearly the love of Christ in action as refracted through the personalities of a number of padres of widely differing temperaments and aptitudes.

Cardale The arrangement of the book is helpful: 10 short chapters

describing, for example 'How they joined', 'What they did', 'When the adrenalin ran', POW life and so on. 'Prayer is all important and conduct tests it' rather than 'Conduct is all important and prayer can help it': this is what the book says over and over again in its glimpses of the prayer life both of the padres and of those they cared for.

There was little room for self-congratulation. 'Don't you realise, Padre', said the MO in one prison camp, 'they only come for the firewood'. After the next service the padre helped by breaking up a chair and returning with two bits stuck up his trouser leg! There are illuminating stories, such as that of the highly trained and convinced Marxist dying of dysentery who at the very end learned to pray and died radiantly: 'I never knew till now what happiness really was'. And of course there is the blood

Continued overleaf 11

# news BAOR from BAOR

Tony Caldwell, The Field Officer for Toc H in Germany, reports.

The Rhine Army Summer Show is held annually at Bad Lippspringe, West Germany. It is the largest event staged each year by the British Military and could be looked upon as a huge PR job. It lasts for three days and is visited by approximately 100,000 people, two thirds of whom are German nationals.

During this event the Military put on a number of displays, including Equestrian Trials of W Germany (Military), Polo, a Military Police Dog Show, 'White Helmets' (a Motorcycle display) and 'Blue Helmets' (a Parachuting display). There was also a full size fun-fair and dozens of stalls selling anything from tea to furniture. The SSVC (Services Sound and Vision Centre) and BFBS (British Forces Broadcasting Service) were in attendance for the whole period broadcasting.

As can be seen from the above, this is an extremely busy time and presents an ideal opportunity for Toc H both as a point of sale (teas, lunches, sandwiches, refreshments) and for public relations. Toc H has attended many of these events, but this year was slightly different. Following our advertisement in *Point 3*, Ted Tunnadine (Toc H Honorary Treasurer), Julie Lake

# international



Preparing sandwiches

and Lucy Cole all volunteered their services. These three volunteers were in addition to Toc H staff colleagues from BAOR. And what a difference they made!

Unfortunately the trooping flight bringing them out from UK was delayed all day and they arrived extremely tired. I suggested that they have a pizza and then take a walk in the woods as it was a pleasant night: but unfortunately we got lost and wandered round for almost two hours, arriving back at 1 am the following morning with several uncomplimentary comments from Ted! Up at 6.30 the next morning, we set

off for the Show, one hour's journey away, where we sold tea and stickies and did some PR. All worked extremely hard and I would welcome them back any time! Many people showed an interest in Toc H and Ted, Julie and Lucy were able to inform them about Toc H in the UK as well as BAOR.

At the end of the three days all said how much they had enjoyed their visit to BAOR and Toc H was commended by the Rhine Army Summer Show organisers for the work they had done. We have been asked to attend next year and once more will be looking for volunteers. Watch out for our ad in *Point 3*!

# Continued from previous page

and guts - but this is most sensitively handled.

I have greatly benefitted from reading this book. It will probably find a place, not gathering dust on my bookshelf, but either on my prayer desk or else in 'everyman's private prayer cell' (the smallest room in the house), to be picked up for a quick glance at an inspiring bit and, for good measure, for a recall of the wickedly artless question addressed to a new applicant: 'When you're preaching in the pulpit can you see the congregation?'

**Hugh Potts** 

Rev Canon Hugh Potts is Toc H Honorary Regional Padre in the West Mids & South Wales Region. Bert Hill (left), from Stockport, and John Crocker from Cornwall (a member of this year's CEC) between them filled the office of Hon. Warden of Talbot House, Poperinge, throughout the summer, following the illness of the Warden, Jacques Ryckebosch. Jacques was taken very seriously ill at the end of March and had an operation a month later. He has been convalescing since then. Bert and John came to the rescue immediately word of Jacques' illness was received. It's been a busy summer for them with two or three coachloads of visitors most days. Among this year's resident visitors have been three school groups on history field study trips. There have been two groups from the South East Region which, under the heading 'A Peace of Flanders', have included discussions and workshops on conflict and reconciliation.

## **Poperinge**



# rounds

Betty Pethurst, West Essex District Secretary, writes about an enjoyable weekend spent with the Thanet District at Cuddesdon House, the Toc Hoentre near Oxford.

West Essex and Thanet Districts have shared many weekends at Cuddesdon over the years and were delighted to meet there again recently. On Friday evening, Judith Rice, Editor and Publicity Officer for Toc H, travelled from London to talk to us and explained her thoughts and intentions about the subject matter of *Point 3* and about presenting Toc H to the outside world and the media. I think I can safely say that all the members at the meeting felt enlightened about

Judith's objectives in printing the articles about the various world religions which have recently appeared in the magazine. We were also interested in her technical explanations of how the magazine is compiled.

On Saturday we carried out various tasks in the house and garden. In the afternoon some members visited Oxford in the minibus kindly driven by our staff member John Burgess, and others toured some of the beautiful local countryside. Then at 5pm, John split us up into groups and we were all asked to think up a project and set down all the arrangements and costings for it.

On the Sunday morning we split into the same three groups and discussed what was meant by the word 'spiritual'. What does it mean to be a Christian and should we accept only members of the Christian faith into the movement?

There followed much interesting and lively discussion.

This session had been preceded by an unusual 'service' in the beautiful chapel. It consisted of prayers read by various members, taken from A Pocketful of Prayers for Toc H-although the last edition of this book was published in 1959, the prayers contained in it are still very applicable today. One of the members had recorded some music and three hymns and those present were able to join in as the words had been printed for them. All 23 of us attended!

We enjoyed each other's company until after lunch when we set off for our respective homes - after giving our thanks to Anne, Stephen and Nancy for the super meals provided and to John for his help in making our weekend so successful as well as for giving us real food for thought about Toc H.



The Toc H Tent



Tony Caldwell, Field Officer (left) and Fred Mason, Warden at Munster (right).

Members of the newly recognised Poperinge Branch of Toc H (formerly known as the Swans Group) pictured in the garden of Talbot House, with a party of UK visitors led by John Biggerstaff (far right). Development Officer in the North Wales and North West Region. Seated in the centre is branch chairman Valere Deroo. The picture was taken following the AGM, at which formal application for branch status was made. With 64 members the branch must be one of the largest in the world.

## **Bletchley Fire**

It was a summer Sunday evening in June 1988 when the telephone rang. Little was I prepared for the shock I received. Vandals had broken into our little meeting room, lit two fires and left us with a charred, blackened mess. Worse was to follow - the room was Chapel property and was under-insured!

We were in the depths of despair. If we had been asked to climb Mount Everest it would have seemed a simpler task than rebuilding our room. Then along came a former member (sadly following the loss of his wife Margery, who was a founder member of the women's branch), and he was like the T.V. advert! 'Can you do-----?' 'No but I know a man who can.' Albert was like that; he knew a builder, glazier, plumber etc. We contacted Alan Le Pere at H.Q. who arranged our finances, and we were away.

The branches in our district were absolutely marvellous with financial and practical help. 12 months later (June 1989) we had a new meeting room - and one much better than the original! To thank all the splendid people who helped us, we held a supper party. 90 people attended and we had a very happy evening. The finishing touch was the beautiful surprise cake given to us by our secretary's wife. What a marvellous family Toc H is.

Sheila Kay Chairman, Bletchley Branch Continued overleaf 13

## No, it isn't Farewell to Mundesley House!

Gilbert Francis explains why Toc H is not renewing the lease on its centre at Mundesley and how it will maintain links in the future.

The fifth season of Toc H usage of Mundesley House is drawing to its close, and in many ways it has been the most successful. Why then, you may ask, are we giving up the lease? The main reason is, inevitably, in the field of finance. Mundesley is unable to meet the annual rental that a renewal of the lease would Central demand, hence the Executive's decision not to renew the lease - a decision which in the light of knowledge, I support. Let me be brutally frank; Mundesley House at its best has only been used for half the time it has been available, and of that usage something less than half has been by Toc H or Toc H associated groups, the balance coming from outside the movement. That is not a good basis for continuing with the lease. Nevertheless, over the years an extremely amicable relationship has been built up between ourselves and Methodist Youth Holidays, to whom Mundesley belongs, and although this has not led to the close partnership some folk had envisaged in the beginning it is felt by both sides that the relationship should be preserved and the agreement to part company in a business sense has been a most amicable one. It is hoped that it may prove possible for Toc H and MYH to undertake a

certain amount of work on special projects together, and it is hoped that Toc H parties from both membership and project sources will continue to use the house as before. In order to help this in some measure, MYH have agreed to a discount for Toc H parties. The names given by Toc H to the various rooms will remain and the Toc H lamp held by the house will be retained in its present position as a reminder that the link is a tangible one.

It is trusted that all those who have come to love Mundesley House will be reassured that the Toc H thinking and method will continue to be a part of the working and purpose of the whole complex by two facts. First, I have been appointed Chairman of the Complex Mundesley Youth Management Executive, and secondly, Trevor Sizer, having left the staff of Toc H, has been Administrator appointed Manager on a full-time basis and will be continuing to look after Mundesley on behalf of Toc H up to the end of the lease in the same way as he has done in the past. We hope that together and in association with others, much of the Toc H 'flavour' of the place can be preserved and increased.

So much good has come out of Mundesley House over thelast five years that it would be a pity if it went to waste. There is no reason why it should not continue and increase in the future, and I do urge all who have found fellowship, peace and opportunity in and around the house in the past to continue the association so that it remains 'ours' in atmosphere and purpose if not in ownership. We are not saying 'farewell', but a new 'hello'.



Young versus Not-so-Young! - Melton Mowbray Branch and volunteers at Mundesley House last year.

# Sdate

### new members

The following new members were registered during August:

Ms Alison Andrieux (Chippenham District) Mrs Christine L Hone, Mrs Anne M Morton, Mrs Joyce Woolacott (Honiton W) William Robertson (Largs J) Mrs Kathleen L Obee (Maidstone Swan J) Mrs Doris B Cox, Mrs Gladys E Smith (Melton Mowbray W) Peter G Morris (Oatlands J) Bernard Peakman, Jack Hogg, Mrs Rosemary Thornhill (Saltburn J) Michael Warrell (Seaford J) David A Parker (Shavington J) Mrs Lois M Batty, Mrs Ruth Blackwell, Mrs May Hellewell, Mrs Inga Holding, Jame H Holding, Trevor Whitlam (Thurcroft (Rotherham) J)

Welcome to 20 new members

## staff news

Robin McSorley, who was Manager of Webb House, is the new Warden at Cuddesdon House.

John Biggerstaff will continue as National Project Co-ordinator working 50% of his time in this role and 50% as Development Officer in North West Region.

Judith Hodgson, who was working part-time with Friendship Circles in Darlington, is Manager of Webb House in Middlesbrough.

### farewell

to John Dickson, who has taken up a post as Director of The National Association for the Childless, based in Birmingham. He has been on the staff of Toc H for 12 years. We wish him well.

to Katharine Carter, Long Term Volunteer at Alison House, who left Toc H in July. She has returned to college.

# congratulations

to The Very Rev. Lord Macleod of Fuinary on the Templeton Prize which he was awarded earlier this work in the for his advancement of religion. He is one of the Presidents of Toc H.

George Macleod, who recently celebrated his 94th birthday, was one of the first Toc H staff padres, in the early days of the movement. He was later a Moderator of the Church of Scotland. The Prize is an acknowledgement of his rebuilding of the ruined abbey at Iona and his founding of the Iona Community, an ecumenical community of men and women (both lay and clergy) who are seeking new ways of living the Gospel in today's world. 'In the mercy of God' in their own words, 'and in the name of Jesus Christ and in the power of the Holy Spirit, we seek new life for the world, the Church and ourselves in the light of the Kingdom of God that is near'.

regret to announce death of the following members:

In May Claude M Butlin (Southampton District) Albert R Everson (Broughton Astley)

In July Betty Barker (South Yorks District) Florence Cook (Stowmarket) Charles S Thornton (Hunstanton) Eric J Uren (South Dorset District)

In August Louie Boak (Cleveland District) Thomas H Fisher (Wroughton) Eric Fox (South Yorks District)

John 'Jack' Goss

(South East Hants District) George H Hare (Thanet District) George C Henshall (Shavington) Ronald Mullins (Buckingham) Charles R Thompson (Surrey District)

Not previously recorded: Charles S Beaven

(Broughton Astley) Joyce D Beck (Chalfonts) Thomas C Johnson (Largs) Daniel Lawson

(Potters Bar & Little Heath)

Over a period of four months, Buckley Branch has lost two much-loved members. Wynne Humphreys joined Toc H after an early retirement - he used his various talents effectively

# Scared of Missing the Next Issue of Point 3?

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Our series of special issues on the world's great religions will continue with a look at Hinduism and at Buddhism. We shall be examining some of the issues facing us in Britain today, such as the plight of refugees and the approach to mental health. Our 'Starting Point' series will continue with articles on Talbot House and Tubby Clayton - and *Point 3* itself! We'll be hearing what it's like to be a Toc H Development Officer and about Toc H work in inner-city Newcastle. And we'll be finding out about some of the problems of those living in Central America. All this plus our regular book reviews and, of course, news and views from within the movement.

Take out your subscription to Point 3 now by sending this form to:

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but unobtrusively. Neil Cropper died after a long and distressing illness. His work had taken him all around the country but he retained his Toc H membership and on retirement joined the branch where he had been initiated. The large numbers attending the funerals of both men indicate the high regard in which they were held.

Rev L F Baker, who died earlier this year, was Headmaster of Cannock School in Chelsfield, Kent, for almost 30 years. After living in Western Canada, where he had his first parish, he moved to Eltham and for 50 years she helped Eltham Toc H and Shooters Hill District in serving their community. His life was one of unselfish achievement.

I read in the August issue of Point 3 of the death of Edgar ('Ted') Hurrell, an old friend of mine in Toc H. He was always an amazingly generous man. I did not see him very often in Toc H circles, but I saw enough of him to know that here was a sociable, warm-hearted man who loved his fellow human beings. human beings.

Retty Goyns, a member of Folkestone & Sandgate Branch, will be sadly missed. She had previously been a great helper to Coney Hall Branch and a member of Hythe Branch.

Chard Joint Branch regret to report the death of their senior member Hubert Sutton ('Sutty'), who died in June. He originally joined Toc H in Leicester in 1930, and transferred first to Woodford Green and later to Chard. His sense of humour and great Toc H experience has been much appreciated. Members and friends attended his memorial service at the United Reformed Church in Axminster.

Leeds Women's Branch are sad to record their parting from a very brave, active and loyal member, Evelyn Payne, who had fought to overcome illness over the years. We thank God for her happy nature and spiritual strength.

We give thanks for their lives

In the August edition of *Point 3* we mistakenly reported the death of Thomas McCaw of Largs Branch. We have since heard that he is very much alive and that it was Thomas C Johnson of the same branch who passed on. We do apologise for this mistake and hope that it did not cause any distance.

## NATIONAL GARDEN FESTIVAL Gateshead

July 8 1990

From 3pm

The North East Region of Toc H

will be having a Regional Festival in the amphitheatre.

Tickets will cover entrance, tea & biscuits and entertainment.

For further details write now to

David Mayhew, The White House, 20 Wickham View, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, NE15 6SY

# World Chain of Light

**Cuddesdon House** 

24 Hour Vigil 11 - 12 December 1989

This year we are taking as a theme 'Prelude to 1990' and will be looking back at the history of Toc H and at what lies ahead as we prepare to celebrate 75 years of the movement.

For more details write to: Carol Button, 25 Downham Mead, Monkton Park, Chippenham, Wilts SN15 3LN; tel: 0249 65 4585.



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For further information contact:

The Rev Gualter R de Mello, Prideaux House, Ecumenical Interfaith Centre, 10 Church Crescent, London, E9 7DL. Telephone: 01 986 2233.

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Hythe, Kent - homely accommodation in member's home. Bed/breakfast and/or evening meal or full board. Christmas booking now being taken. Rates negotiable. Enquire: Nesta Cock, 7 Tournay Close, Lympne, Hythe, Kent CT21 4LL. Tel: 0303 269407.

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Our 'Advent Books' (£1), 'Christmas Booklets' (35p) and popular 'Christmas Crackers' (75p) make excellent inexpensive gifts. Send for list to: Norheimsund Books, 1 Whitney Road, Burton Latimer, Northants, NN15 SSL.

Christian fellowship groups, social events, nationwide. Weekend Fellowship Friendship, St Nicholas Close, Edenthorpe, Doncaster, DN3 2QD.

For Sale - Bound volumes of Toc H Journal, 1922-1966 inclusive. What offers? F. Barter, 72 The Green, Rowlands Castle, Hants PO9 6AB.